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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-Hour Report

8 DECEMBER 2021

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Huntington Beach - Man Who Admitted to US Capitol Siege Sentenced to Jail

(U) A Huntington Beach man who filmed himself entering the US Capitol during the 6 January insurrection was sentenced to 35 days behind bars. Mark Simon earlier this year agreed to a plea deal requiring he admit to a misdemeanor count of parading, demonstrating, or picketing at the capitol in return for federal prosecutors agreeing to dismiss three additional charges of entering a restricted building or unlawful activities on Capitol grounds.

SOURCE: 8 December 2021, The Mercury News

(U) Oakland – Oakland Approves Two More Police Academies

(U) The Oakland City Council voted yesterday to approve two new police academies and to use a professional recruiter to help lure experienced police officers amid a debate over how to keep the city safe in the face of a spike in violent crime. In addition, the council delayed a vote on offering \$50,000 signing bonuses for experienced officers and \$20,000 for city residents who sign up as recruits; that proposal will be heard on 21 December. Yesterday's vote directs the city administrator to study the feasibility of signing bonuses.

SOURCE: 7 December 2021, San Francisco Chronicle

(U) San Diego – 'Antifa' Groups Charged with Violently Countering 'Patriot March'

(U) Prosecutors on Monday charged at least seven people, whom they described as self-identified antifascists, in connection with eight alleged assaults that occurred in January during a Pacific Beach "Patriot March" organized by supporters of then-President Donald Trump. They're accused of using pepper spray, small flag poles, sticks and other items to attack the pro-Trump crowd on 9 January on the streets and boardwalk near Crystal Pier. Demonstrators at that rally held signs and flags adorned with "Stop the Steal," "Trump 2020" and other similar messages just days after the 6 January insurrection at the Capitol in Washington, DC.

SOURCE: 8 December 2021, The San Diego Union-Tribune

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) California – 13 People Injured in Rollover Crash During Border Patrol Pursuit

(U) San Diego – Three people were seriously injured when a pickup with 13 people in the cab and bed overturned while being pursued by Border Patrol agents yesterday evening in eastern San Diego County. The other 10 occupants of the Chevrolet Silverado suffered less serious injuries. Paramedics airlifted one person to a hospital and took the other 12 to hospitals via ambulance. In October, the Border Patrol sent out a news release reporting growing concerns over "an increase in dangerous failure-to-yield incidents spanning from San Diego beach communities to east county." A supervisory agent reported from 1 October to 27 October, agents in the Border Patrol's San Diego sector had encountered 23 failure-to-yield incidents involving suspected human smuggling.

SOURCE: 7 December 2021, The Los Angeles Times

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(U) Mexico - Six Mexican Nationals Indicted in Kidnap Scheme That Killed California Resident

(U) Tijuana – A federal grand jury indicted six Mexican nationals in a cross-border hostage-for-ransom conspiracy based out of Tijuana, Mexico that involved nine kidnapped victims, six of whom were killed even after some families paid the ransom for their release. From January 2020 to April 2020, German Garcia Yera Hernandez, 37, the lead defendant, led the organization in taking United States nationals, and Mexican nationals with relatives in the United States, hostage and extorting their families for money, according to the indictment. Three of the victims were US citizens, one of the victims killed was a resident of Norwalk, CA.

SOURCE: 8 December 2021, The Mercury News

(U) NATIONAL

(U) New York – Hate Crimes Increase 100% In New York City This Year

(U) New York City – New data from the New York City Police Department reveals that hate crimes have skyrocketed across the city. Overall, there were 503 reported hate crimes this year as of 5 December, up from 252 in 2020—a 100% increase, the NYPD said yesterday. Police say the spike has been driven by crimes against the Asian community, where there's been a 361% increase—129 incidents this year versus 28 last year.

SOURCE: 8 December 2021, CBS News

(U) New York – Suspect Charged with Setting Fire to Fox Square's All-American Christmas Tree

(U) New York City – A homeless man was charged today with setting fire to the All-American Christmas Tree outside Fox News headquarters in New York City. Craig Tamanaha, 49, was expected to appear in court on charges of criminal mischief, reckless endangerment, arson, criminal nuisance, criminal trespass, criminal tampering, endangering others and disorderly conduct. The 50-foot tree, described as the tallest on the Avenue of the Americas, went up in flames shortly after midnight in Fox Square at Sixth Avenue and 48th Street in Midtown Manhattan. The fire was extinguished by city firefighters and no injuries were reported.

SOURCE: 8 December 2021, Washington Times

(U) Pennsylvania – 12 Major Cities Hit All-Time Homicide Records

(U) Philadelphia – At least 12 major US cities have broken annual homicide records in 2021 with three weeks to go in the year. Of the dozen cities that have already surpassed the grim milestones for killings, five topped records that were set or tied just last year. Experts say there are a number of reasons possibly connected to the jump in homicides, including strained law enforcement staffing, a pronounced decline in arrests and continuing hardships from the pandemic, but that there is no clear answer across the board.

SOURCE: 8 December 2021, ABC News

(U) Texas – Police Searching for Suspect after Active Shooter Situation at Mall

(U) Killeen – Texas police are hunting for a suspect after an active shooter situation at a mall left one person wounded and forced patrons to shelter in place for hours. Officers responded to a call about a "shots disturbance" inside the Killeen Mall at approximately 7:17 p.m., which was then upgraded to an active shooter situation. Police located one victim who was shot multiple times. The victim was airlifted to a local hospital and was reportedly in stable condition. No further details about the shooting or a possible motive were immediately given.

SOURCE: 8 December 2021, FOX News

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(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Mali – Seven UN Peacekeepers Killed in Explosion

(U) Douentza – An explosion today in central Mali killed seven United Nations peacekeepers and seriously wounded three others. A logistics convoy hit an improvised explosive device between the towns of Douentza and Sevare, an area where groups linked to al-Qa'ida and ISIS operate. No group has claimed responsibility.

SOURCE: 8 December 2021, Reuters

(U) Yemen – US DOJ Seizes Largest-Ever Weapons Cache Seized from Iranian Vessels

(U) Sana'a – The Justice Department says it has forfeited two large caches of weapons that the US Navy seized from Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps in the Arabian Sea. The two caches of Iranian arms included 171 surface-to-air missiles and eight anti-tank missiles, as well as more than 1 million barrels of Iranian petroleum products. It was the US government's largest-ever forfeiture of fuel and weapons shipments from Iran. The US Navy seized the weapons from two vessels in the Arabian Sea while conducting routine maritime security operations. Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, which the US State Department recognizes as a foreign terrorist organization, had orchestrated the shipments, and they were destined for Houthi militants in Yemen.

SOURCE: 8 December 2021, FOX News

- (U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.
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